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Bangalore Mirror ON SATURDAY

TEMP Max 32 | Min 21 | Humidity 46% Partly cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain Sensex 58,991 | Nifty 17,359 | Gold 59,572 | Silver 72,388 | Dollar 82.10 | Euro 89.35 | GBP 101.72

No effort to arrest flow of sewage entering Rachenahalli Lake amid rising water pollution, fish death, bad odour, say citizens

FLOW BURN

Citizens worked with civic bodies, MLA to revive lake but in vain

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Rachenahalli Lake is one of the lung spaces in north Bengaluru. Now the waterbody is craving for the attention of the authorities concerned.

Visitors who come to the lake for their morning and evening strolls are finding it difficult to cope with bad odour emanating from the polluted water. Fish that have died due to lack of oxygen in the water are found floating on the surface.

Lake activists in the area are not able to convince the authorities concerned to take measures to stop the sewage flowing into the waterbody. They said sewage continues to enter the lake and no effort is made to stop it.

"When I was the executive director of Mahatma Gandhi Institute, we took many measures to ensure greenery around the lake and prevent construction workers from using the lake as an open toilet. We installed a gate too. All this happened between 2013 and 2014. Later, I got transferred and now I am retired from service," said Punati Sridhar, retired forest officer.

The residents said the Bangalore

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

"Authorities should stop investing in development of lakes in isolation and approach restoration from a lake series point of view

— Dr Shobha Ananda Reddy, environment specialist

When watchers look away

Focus on CCTVs after horrifying violation of 19-year-old in Koramangala

| Melvin Mathew
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The abhorrent and spine-chilling gang rape of a 19-year-old in the Koramangala police station limits has brought to the fore the question of effectiveness of CCTVs in Bengaluru.

Recently, the Bangalore City Police installed 7,000 CCTV cameras across the city as part of Bengaluru Safe City Project.

Experts told BM that while CCTVs can become quintessential in nabbing the culprits, spaces for women can only become safer with a behavioural shift in society.

The 19-year-old working professional was allegedly gang-raped by four men in a moving vehicle in the city limits. The incident came to light on March 26; the police have arrested the four accused.

The incident took place in National Games Village Park, Koramangala. The victim was sitting in the park with her male friend on March 25 around 9:30 pm.

The four accused had a tiff with the duo that allegedly led to the gruesome violence. After the male friend left the premises, the accused group dragged the victim into a Maruti 800; thereafter the victim was gang-raped inside the moving vehicle for nearly four hours.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Just for kids

The Neev Literature Festival has announced fellowships for children's book creators (writers and illustrators). Proposals are invited from creators to produce a book in any genre that has the power to connect with young readers universally. The fellowships will support selected book creators with a grant of Rs 6 lakh each for a period of one year for researching and writing their book.

Last date to apply: June 30, 2023
Apply: nlf-fellowships-for-book-creators.paperform.co/

02 Slice of Rajasthan

Catch a special Rajasthani handloom exhibition that is displaying ethnic and contemporary arts and crafts, clothing, handloom sarees, jewellery, home décor, furniture, and handicraft products direct from the artisans and craft persons from across India.

Where: Bdk Kalyana Mandapa, Yelahanka
When: Till April 16, 10:30 am – 8.30pm
Phones: 89518 99961 / 94829 59786

03 Stories and more

Join Atta Galatta to celebrate the launch of the BWW Bangalore Anthology, with authors Yogesh Kannan Mariappan, Ashish A, Sushma Madappa, and Avishek Chakrobarty. BWW is the first-of-its-kind writing and storytelling school established in Bangalore in 2011.

Where: Atta Galatta
When: April 1, 5pm

Kids, this season, junk all junk food

Children more vulnerable to stomach infections common in summer

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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

For many, summer is associated with swimming, umpteen ice-creams and mangoes, but it is also the time when stomach infections are common. With the temperature and humidity soaring, our bodies are more vulnerable to infections, especially those caused by bacteria and viruses that thrive in warm weather.

According to recent studies, children are more susceptible to these infections during the summer. Many hospitals in the city are reporting over 50 per cent increase in stomach infections among children.

Dr Parimala V Thirumalesh, Senior Consultant- Paediatrics and Neonatology, Aster CMI Hospital, pointed out that there has been an increase by 50 per cent in stomach infections in the past month, and 40 per cent of the OPD consists of cases of stomach infections, specifically for children of age 2-10 years.

Food contamination in hot weather is one of the leading causes, where food tends to spoil quickly, making it more prone to contamination by bacteria and viruses. This can occur at any stage of food preparation, from handling to cooking, and can lead to food-borne illnesses such as gastroenteritis.

"They are getting very sick both due to infection and also due to dehydration common in the summer

–Dr Parimala V Thirumalesh, Senior Consultant- Paediatrics and Neonatology, Aster CMI Hospital

Dr Parimala said, "It started initially as tummy flu which was secondary to viral infection where a cold and cough followed and hydrating the child well was enough in most cases. Recently, the bacterial infection is on the rise with children having severe stomach cramps, pain, vomiting, diarrhoea, and fever. They are getting very sick both due to infection and also due to dehydration as summer increases the demand for hydration."

This apart other reasons observed by doctors that could result in stomach infection is swimming as it a popular activity during summer, but it can also be a breeding ground for bacteria that can cause stomach infections. Poor hygiene, such as not showering before and after swimming, can lead to the spread of germs.

Dr Adarsh Nayak, General Physician, Specialist Hospital stressed upon the aspect of avoiding to eat outside during summers. "It is important for people to choose hygienic restaurants and eateries and avoid street food. It is important to replace lost fluids and electrolytes with plenty of fluids. Proper hand hygiene, surface disinfection and proper storage of excess food can help in preventing the infection. Ensure that the water consumed is either mineral or boiled to avoid possible stomach infections."

On the treatment aspect, the cases can be classified as mild, moderate, and severe. Mild cases are treated with good hydration and probiotics. Moderate bacterial cases are treated with antibiotics, fluid resuscitation, probiotics while in severe cases, patients need to be hospitalised.

Bunked! 27,000 students miss SSLC exam

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

This year, around 27,000 students were unable to take the SSLC exams due to lack of attendance, a first in recent history.

Sources reported that these students will have to write the exams next year. There has been no response from the department as to why so many capable students did not attend school regularly. However, it is estimated that these children may have been absent from school due to either mobile addiction or poverty.

This is not an isolated case. During the 2023 PUC (Pre-University Course) examination, 4,493 students were not eligible to write the exam due to lack of minimum attendance. Compared to this, the number of such students in the SSLC has increased. In 2019, 10,867 students were unable to take the exam due to this issue. The higher number of students losing exams due to attendance has stirred a debate.

The SSLC exams for the year 2023 began with 8.69 lakh students eligible for exams at 3,307 examination centres on Friday and will continue till March 15. Sources said that of the 27,000 students, around 5 per cent of students could have had lesser attendance due to health issues.

The students who have failed in the main exams have a chance to write the exam in supplementary exams which will be held in a month or two. However, those missing exams due to attendance shortage won't get a chance and have to attend the classes physically in their respective schools and attend the exam next year provided they have 75 per cent attendance again.

Educationists suggest schools focus on innovative teaching methods as well as increasing extracurricular activities to motivate students to attend school. A school teacher on the condition of anonymity said that after Covid, the situation has changed as many students are quitting studies midway to join work or to support their family as a section of earning family members had lost their jobs.

Ravi Kumar, a school principal, said, "The attendance should be monitored regularly and updated to parents. If we can inform parents month after month, then there won't be an annual shock when the parents get to know about their ward's attendance only at the last minute before the exam and they are unable to do much.

Metro timings for IPL fans

In light of the Indian Premier League 2023 night matches scheduled to be held in Bangalore on April 2, 10, 17, 26, and May 21, the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) will be extending train services on the Baiyappanahalli - Kengeri and Nagasandra - Silk Institute lines until the early morning hours of the following day of the matches. On match days, the last train from the terminal stations (Baiyappanahalli, Kengeri, Nagasandra, and Silk Institute) will depart at 1am, and from Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Station, Majestic at 1:30 am in all four directions.

To travel from any station to Cubbon Park and MG Road, passengers can use tokens, QR tickets, and smart cards at normal fares. BMRCL will issue return journey paper tickets at all metro stations from 3 pm onwards on the match day. The paper tickets are valid for a single journey from Cubbon Park and MG Road Metro Station to any station on the Baiyappanahalli - Kengeri and Nagasandra - Silk Institute sections on the day of the cricket matches from 8 pm until the extended hours of the following day. Passengers can also use smart cards and QR tickets.

File photo of RCB fans waiting to get tickets for the unbox event, to witness the practice session at M Chinnaswamy Stadium

SAI probes case of alleged secret filming

The Sports Authority of India is looking into an incident where a diploma trainee was allegedly filmed by another student at the common girls' washroom at SAI Diploma Girls Hostel in Mallathahalli, on Tuesday.

An internal committee has been formed and the committee has been directed to submit its report at the earliest. SAI also helped the alleged victim lodge a police complaint. Considering the sensitivity of the issue, the matter was reported to the police and on Wednesday, the FIR was lodged.

SAI officials have also brought out a suspension letter against the accused and asked her to vacate the hostel. She has been allowed to vacate the hostel on Thursday after clearance from the police. **ANI**

File photo of the protest in February

'It is my right to protest peacefully'

Activist puzzled by police notice issued for protest organised in Feb at Sankey

Melvin Mathew
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@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Sadashivanagar Police Station recently issued a notice to one of the Sankey Tank protestors on grounds of wrongful confinement, unlawful assembly and obstruction of public way.

On February 19, citizens dressed in black gathered to engage in a peaceful march to save trees. According to the event organisers, the event was carried out in an orderly manner along the footpath without obstructing traffic. However, Avijit Michael, Managing Trustee of Jhatkaa.org was issued notice by Sadashivanagar police station on March 17 to appear for questioning.

As per the notice, Michael has been charged with IPC sections 341,141,149, and 283. The police also added that the gathering involving 60-70 other people had taken place without intimation to the police.

Responding to the notice, Michael said in a statement, "I am a law-abiding citizen who is concerned about nature and the health of Bengaluru's citizens and our children's health. It is my constitutionally guaranteed right to peaceful protest in India, the mother of democracies and the nation of Mahatma Gandhiji, the stalwart of ahimsa and peaceful protest. I do not accept any of the charges laid out against me, as they have no merit."

On February 19, hundreds of residents from Malleswaram and nearby areas took part in a silent march to protest against the 600-metre-long proposed flyover in the area. Activists had opposed the flyover project as they said it would only increase traffic congestion in the area, and destroy the ecology of the area, particularly Sankey Tank Lake. Donning black, the residents arrived at the lake at 8 am and conducted an hour-long march around the perimeter of the water body.

> **I do not accept any of the charges laid out against me as they have no merit**
>
> –Avijit Michael, Managing Trustee of Jhatkaa.org

Organised by Citizens for Sankey, a collective of residents from Sadashivanagar, Malleshwaram, and Vyalikaval, the highlight of the protest was not involving chanting of slogans or raising banners.

Several days later, BBMP commissioner Tushar Giri Nath withdrew the Sankey flyover project file from the forest cell of the civic body after facing pressure from the Sankey residents' group.

Advertorial

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FROM JAGDALE INDUSTRIES PRIVATE LIMITED, BANGALORE

Centella Asiatica is a perennial herb found growing in a marshy place of the country.

The plant is indigenous to South-East Asia, India, Sri-Lanka & parts of China, Western South Islands, & many more places.

Centella Asiatica belongs to Family Apiaceae, Division Tracheophyta of the plant kingdom. It is recognised in Ayurvedic pharmacopoeia with different names as 'Manduki (Darduracchada)' in Sanskrit, 'Brahma Manduki', 'Mandukaparni', 'Gotu Kola' in Hindi and Indian Pennywort in English.

"Bhavaprakasa" an ayurvedic text, while describing on Brahmi and its medical benefits relates "Mandukaparni as similar to the Brahmi in its properties". Indian Health Portal promotes *Centella Asiatica* under "Siddha" category as best for treating liver disorders, improves memory and intelligence. It is often described as "Miracle Elixirs of Life". In addition, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), has recognised Centella Asiatica under Nutraceutical category with a defined daily dosage.

Keeping in view of the abundant health benefits and medicinal properties of this wonderful herb *Centella Asiatica*, Jagdale Industries Private Limited, has developed and cultivated in their farm this variety which is new & distinct & was coded as Centa Broad Jagdale 9072.

The new variety has distinct characterization with respect to morphological, Bio-chemical, & genotypic properties compared to the existing defined varieties of *Centella Asiatica*.

The newly identified variety possess many distinct morphological characteristics such as broader leaf with width of more than 14.0 cm and larger surface area of greater than 90.0 cm^2, longer petiole and many more distinct characters.

These distinct characters of Centa Broad Jagdale 9072 are the inherent specialities than the existing varieties with respect to its essential biochemical components which has numerous health benefits in terms of higher content of active micro nutrients compounds such as Asiaticoside, Madecassoside and total Triterpenoids. Therefore, consuming lessor quantity of fresh leaves delivers a higher quantity of Bio actives.

It has also shown good response when it comes to weed control as its unique broad leaf structure reduces the amount of sunlight being absorbed by weeds, thus reducing the proliferation of weeds.

The published literatures with respect to clinical studies exhibits the potential benefits of *Centella Asiatica* plant in terms of various pharmacological effects which are in favour on human health especially through neuroprotective effect. Many research studies reported *Centella Asiatica* helps in prevention of amyloid plaque formation in Alzheimer's disease, dopamine neurotoxicity in Parkinson's disease, and decreasing oxidative stress. Researchers have also called the crop as "snow plant" for its cooling properties.

On the commercial view, *Centella Asiatica* has its extensive application in the area of food, cosmetics and pharma. *Centella Asiatica* is already been in use as an ingredient in beverages, tea, health supplements, tablets/capsules/tonic, facial creams, herbal extracts, powders and many more. It can also be used as fresh & refreshing green to salad preparation in daily food consumption. Hence, use of this herb definitely promotes health and wellness to the body.

Centella asiatica

Centa Broad Jagdale 9072

The report from ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR), Bangalore has clearly emphasized the genetically variation of Centa Broad Jagdale 9072 variety through **"DNA fingerprinting"** and observed that the variety is genetically different to the existing centella species. The distinctness and unique characterizations of the Centa Broad Jagdale 9072 variety certainly helps in providing a healthy and power packed herb to the domestic and international Consumers.

Where there's metro, there's realty

Realtors reveal that property buyers are eyeing land close to metro stations now

BM Property
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With the expansion of the metro to newer areas, realtors are reporting an increase in property demand. This trend has been witnessed across all metro lines.

A realtor, Santosh Babu, said, "Previously, buyers used to ask us about proximity to highways, bus stops, and other amenities. Now, they also want to know if the property is close to a metro station. For instance, with the Metro network extended to Kengeri and further extensions planned to Challaghatta, the Kengeri-Tavarekere belt has seen a surge in property demand. Many people want to park their vehicles near the metro station and take it to reach city areas, avoiding traffic.

As we know, Mysuru Road from Sirsi Circle flyover to Kengeri is often congested, making the metro an easier travel option. We hope that the third phase of the metro reaching other areas will also lead to a property boom in the city."

Meanwhile, Dhaval Ajmera, Director at Ajmera Realty Infra India Ltd, said that the Bengaluru real estate market has seen a strong upward trend in recent years. The city has attracted investments from first-time buyers, investors, NRIs, and domestic and international players, leading to increased demand for residential and commercial properties.

"The demand for rental properties has also increased, particularly in areas near major IT hubs like Whitefield and Electronic City. Many young professionals who relocate to Bengaluru for work tend to rent apartments instead of buying a house.

The growth of the IT sector in the city has acted as a catalyst for the expansion of the real estate market," he said. With some of the world's top tech firms in Bengaluru, it offers fantastic growth opportunities for developers to explore the Bengaluru market. Recently, tech giant Apple announced that they would be launching their phone production plant in Karnataka, creating about one lakh job opportunities.

The Silicon Valley of India has experienced tremendous economic growth in the last decade, which has opened doors to ample job creation, generating the need for quality housing. In response, several listed developers are investing in Bengaluru housing and commercial real estate, he informed.

He further said that the government has taken active measures to boost the infrastructure of Bengaluru, given the city's prominence. The city is expected to witness numerous projects in the planning and development phase.

"To address the issue of traffic, 75 traffic junctions have been identified for development, along with roads less than 60 feet wide and experiencing heavy traffic. The government has allotted Rs 150 crore to improve bottleneck situations on these stretches by widening them to a uniform width. Furthermore, there are several projects underway to boost connectivity, such as the new metro lines phase 2A and 2B, the Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project, and the Peripheral Ring Road (PRR)," he said, adding that these projects will significantly reduce travel time in the city and boost demand for housing in locations like Yelahanka.

Despite regulatory barriers, rising property prices, and fluctuations in demand-supply dynamics, the Bengaluru real estate market is expected to remain robust in the coming years.

Prakash VL

Biggest housing boom in 15 years

The housing sector in India has been witnessing a significant boom in recent times, with various factors contributing to the growth. A Capital Advisors firm in the country has reported that this boom is probably the largest in the last 15 years. The firm's Managing Director and CEO, Vipul Roongta, has attributed this growth to factors such as affordability and the aspiration of customers to own homes.

Roongta also noted that the residential real estate market has revived strongly after undergoing significant pain due to the new realty law RERA and demonetisation. The accountability enforced by RERA, which holds developers accountable for completing projects and can result in imprisonment for defaulters, has been a significant contributor to the sector's revival.

To cater to the growing demand for affordable housing, the firm has launched a $3.2 billion real estate fund. 85 per cent of the capital has already been committed. Last year, housing sales in India reached an all-time high of nearly 3.65 lakh units across seven major cities, according to property consultant Anarock.

Kuldip Narayan, Joint Secretary, Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, said the size of the urban sector will double in the next 25 years.

He said the requirements for facilities, residential spaces, commercial spaces, and urban infrastructure would double.

"With increasing urbanisation from 12 to 30 per cent, the next 20 years could see more development than in the last 50 years," he said.

Narayan also alluded to the government's emphasis on changes in construction technologies highlighting the government's "consistent stand on reducing carbon emissions and improving energy efficiency" and encouraging the industry to "adopt better and resource-efficient construction technology".

Raj Menda, joint chairman at FICCI Real Estate Committee and Corporate chairman at a real estate firm, said, "After consecutive years of slowdown in the sector, last year witnessed unprecedented growth by reaching a new historical height in the commercial office segment".

He added the extraordinary demand for flex space from medium and large enterprises further propelled the sector's growth.

Arun Chawla, director general at FICCI, said, "With an increase in urbanisation and household incomes, the demand for residential real estate has seen an unprecedented surge. As a result, India is now among the top 10 price-appreciating housing markets internationally."

In conclusion, the housing sector in India is experiencing a significant boom, and the demand for affordable and mid-income housing remains strong. The government and private sector are working towards meeting the demand and providing the necessary infrastructure to support this growth.

– Times Property

DS MAX
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Highway to acrimony

Police personnel had been deployed at a toll plaza on Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway after a protest near Bidadi on March 14

Protests grow as Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway toll prices see another revision

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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Commuters traveling on the Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway are in for a new shock as toll charges, which were imposed 17 days ago, have undergone another revision. The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is all set to hike toll prices again, resulting in a 22 per cent increase from today.

According to an NHAI release, one-way travel for a car/van/jeep will now cost Rs 165 (an increase of Rs 30), while round trips costs will be Rs 250 (an increase of Rs 45). For light vehicles/minibuses, toll charges are now Rs 270 (an increase of Rs 50) for one-way travel and Rs 405 (an increase of Rs 75) for round trips. Truck/bus/two-axle vehicle toll charges will now be Rs 565 (an increase of Rs 165) for one-way travel and Rs 850 (an increase of Rs 160) for round-trips. Three-axle commercial vehicles will have to pay a one-way travel toll of Rs 615 (an increase of Rs 115), and round trips costs will be Rs 925 (an increase of Rs 225).

The Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway has been a site for protests ever since toll collection began. The revised cost in just over a fortnight has further angered road users. "Once toll prices are fixed, they should be applicable for at least a year. We condemn the increase in prices again so soon," said Raje Gowda, a traveller from Bengaluru to Mysuru. Suresh R, a resident of Mandya, said, "The toll collection is only for the first toll as NHAI is yet to start collecting toll from Srirangapatna toll booth. If you have to drive from Bengaluru to Mysuru, then you end up paying approximately Rs 330 for one-way travel, which means that we have to pay more than Rs 2/km, which is quite expensive."

Many commuters have been demanding that the NHAI should first complete the service roads so that those who do not want to pay toll can use the toll-free road. NHAI project director Shridhar stirred a debate by recently stating that the service roads were not purposely completed as they were worried that if a toll-free service road was provided for the entire stretch, not many would use tolled roads.

In response to the latest toll hike, an NHAI official said, "There is a provision for hiking toll charges as per the National Highway Toll Act 2008."

Meanwhile, there was commotion at the toll plaza as a few employees allegedly roughed up a commuter at the Kanaminike toll plaza. Sources said the victim, Vishwanath, a resident of Thanisandra in Bengaluru, had an argument with the toll staff over a technical issue related to FASTag. CCTV footage showed that a few staff members assaulted Vishwanath, who later lodged a complaint with Kumbalgod police.

Airport toll up slightly

Starting this Saturday, toll fares for the drive towards the airport will increase slightly. Cars and LCVs, which were previously charged Rs 105 for one-way travel, will now be charged Rs 110. The return journey cost has also increased from Rs 165 to Rs 170. While toll fare revisions are not uncommon, this increase may cause inconvenience to travelers who rely on this route.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, **Neelakanta,** Advocate Sheshagirihalli village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk, Ramanagara District, I hereby issue this Public Notice on behalf of my client **Smt. Chayadevi W/o G. Ganesh,** Residing at No. 683, Sarojamma Layout, Behind Police Station, Bidadi, Ramanagara Taluk, Ramanagara District.

This notice hereby given that, the Registered Document No. **4702/1995-96,** bearing original Sale Deed dated : **16.03.1996** executed between 1) N. Nagendra and 2) **K. Ladhu Lal Jain and Ramesh Chand,** registered at: Ramanagara Sub-Registrar, Karnataka is being lost un traceable and has been misplaced in the house. The Lost Report of the same has been lodged at the Bidadi Police Station, Karnataka on **24.03.2023, vide D.P. No. 46/2023.**

If fund, kindly informed to my **client Smt. Chayadevi W/o G. Ganesh,** address as mentioned in this documents including any claims, disputes or any issues, by 3rd parties the same shall be reached out to my client are to my address as above within 07 days, failing which my client will proceed further on the basis of the Certified Copy of the said document and no claims thereafter shall be entertain.

Date : 31.03.2023

Sd/- **Neelakanta,** B.A., LL.B., Advocate
Sheshagirihalli, Hejjala (Post), Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Dist. Mob : 98802 59128, 80737 48845.

A walk by the lake

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) engineers did not take measures to stop sewage flowing into the lake. "Sewage from Dasarahalli, Amruthahalli and Srirampura enters the lake through the storm water drain. We have been complaining to the BWSSB engineers but in vain. Water quality has deteriorated and fish are dying due to lack of oxygen," said Sanjeev Dyamannavar, a resident of the area.

The residents formed the citizen group, Jalmitra, and worked with all stakeholders under the guidance of Punati Sridhar. The citizen group continued to work actively with the BBMP, BDA and MLA Krishna Byre Gowda to restore the waterbody until 2019 but in vain.

According to Dr Shobha Ananda Reddy, environment specialist, the inflow of excess untreated waste water from the residential layouts, apartments coupled with blocked manholes and storm water drains have led to the pitiable state of the waterbody.

"Amruthahalli Lake, Jakkur Lake and Rachenahalli Lake and associated storm water drains should be considered collectively for ensuring water quality of Rachenahalli Lake is restored. In addition to this, the authorities should stop investing in development of the lakes in isolation and approach the subject of lake restoration from a lake series point of view," said Dr Reddy.

Selwyn Mascarenhas, a resident, said he found sewage all around the lake and dead fish floating on the surface of the water for the last 10 days.

Meanwhile, BWSSB chief engineer for waste water management (west division) Devaraju M said the desilting work around the lake is in progress.

"I inspected the lake about 15 days ago. There were no sewage problems. I will look into the matter. To avoid flooding of the lake surroundings, we have taken up desilting work," the chief engineer said.

whatsapp MIRROR 9591233247

Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Unblock please!

Jayanagar

The footpath near New Udupi Upahar on 41st cross, 9th main, Jayanagar 5th block, which is already occupied by a cabin, is now further blocked by a banner.

Endless work

KR Puram

Construction work for a building has been going on for the last three months next to Rama Hospital, KR Puram bus stop, which is blocking the footpath.

Dumpyard?

Sampangi Ramnagar

This corner in 6th cross, Sampangi Ramnagar has become a dumping yard by BBMP personnel.

PIC FOR REPRESENTATION PURPOSE ONLY

Have an exotic pet? Let the govt know

Amended Wildlife Protection Act to come into force from today

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror @timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Are you a wildlife enthusiast looking for an exotic pet? Do you have an iguana in your backyard or a wild cat tiptoeing inside your living room? If you have an exotic or unheard-of animal species as a pet, it is time you declare the stock to the government to avoid prosecution.

As the amended Wildlife Protection Act is kicking in across the country from today (April 1), keeping any undeclared exotic animal species will put you on the wrong side of the law.

"A voluntary disclosure scheme that was announced in 2020 and the notification for which is on the central government's Parivesh portal preceded the amendment. As per the notification, those with exotic animal species have the opportunity to declare the animals they have as pets. If they fail to do so, it will be considered an offense," said a city-based wildlife conservationist.

While many have exercised this option and declared the exotic animal stock, officials from Karnataka Forest Department say they expect many more declarations in the coming days.

However, city-based experts say that the amended act with the one-time voluntary disclosure scheme is already fueling the illegal trade market in exotic animals leading to serious concerns. The scheme is going to open up a floodgate of illegal trade of exotic animals in India

"Fundamentally, the Voluntary Disclosure Scheme is rewarding those who had smuggled in exotic live species of wild animals which were prohibited items in the Negative list of imports. Shockingly, those in illegal possession of such smuggled animals got their stock legalised in one stroke without any penalties. This ill-advised scheme has been pushed through by the central government even when planning to include CITES regulations in the Wildlife Act, which will now come into force from April 1," said Praveen Bhargav, trustee, Wildlife First and former member of National Board for Wildlife.

Already, we are beginning to see the negative impacts with kangaroos escaping in the

> **"This ill-advised scheme has been pushed through by the central govt**
>
> –Praveen Bhargav

North East and such 'regularised' animals entering the illegal trade, he added.

Experts say, with the infiltration of many exotic species, the danger of zoonotic diseases spreading is going to be high, notwithstanding the claim of ensuring disease surveillance.

"With practically no disease surveillance mechanism and monitoring in place, it appears that we have not learnt any lessons from the recent pandemic. Even though national interest is considered as supreme, the decision makers have done a great disservice to the safety and wellbeing of our indigenous species of wildlife by notifying this scheme," explained Bhargav.

Court orders FIR registration against MLA

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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On Thursday, the 42nd additional chief metropolitan magistrate court, which serves as a special court for trial of cases against sitting and former Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Legislative Assembly (MLAs), ordered for registration of a first information report (FIR) against the sitting MLA of Beluru in Hassan district.

The Magistrate has issued an order to the station house officer of Belur Police Station to register an FIR against the Belur MLA Lingesh KS and 15 others for misusing their power in granting government land to bogus and fictitious beneficiaries to the extent of more than 2,750 acres of land worth around Rs 780 crore.

A private complaint (bearing the number 2230 of 2023) was filed by social activist KC Rajanna of Kolar district under the Sections 468, 464, 409, 465, 471B, 420, 120B of the Indian Penal Code.

The court has directed the station house officer of Belur Police Station to submit the investigation report by July 7. The case was represented by advocates Umpathi S and Sudha Katwa.

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
Khadi India
G20
State Level Exhibition Under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)
ಖಾದಿ ಉತ್ಸವ – 2023
KHADI UTSAV - 2023
ಪ್ರದರ್ಶನ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾರಾಟ
ಖಾದಿ ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರಾಮೋದ್ಯೋಗ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನಗಳು
Exhibition - Cum Sale
Khadi & Village Industries Products
35% ರಿಯಾಯತಿ ದರದಲ್ಲಿ ಖಾದಿ ಬಟ್ಟೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಪಾಲಿವಸ್ತ್ರ ಬಟ್ಟೆಗಳು ದೊರೆಯುತ್ತವೆ
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24-03-2023 to 02-04-2023
Time: 10.00 am to 9.00 pm
KHADI VIKAS YOJANA
Components of Khadi Vikas Yojana: 1. Modified Market Development Assistance (MMDA). 2. Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate scheme (ISEC). 3. Work-shed Scheme for Khadi artisans. 4. Strengthening of the infrastructure of existing weak Khadi institutions and assistance for marketing infrastructure. 5. Centre of Excellence for Khadi. 6. Khadi Quality Assurance 7. Marketing Promotion (Exhibitions). 8. Science & Technology (S&T)Scheme
GRAMODYOG VIKAS YOJANA (GVY)
"Gramodyog Vikas Yojana (GVY)" scheme is for promotion and development of village industries through common facilities, technological modernization, training etc. & other support and services for promotion of village Industries. GVY has the following components / verticals from the activities under Village Industries: a) Wellness & Cosmetics Industry (WCI). b) Handmade Paper, Leather & Plastic Industry (HPLPI). c) Agro Based & Food Processing Industry (ABFPI). d) Mineral Based Industry (MBI). e) Rural Engineering & New Technology Industry (RENTI). f) Service Industry.
HONEY MISSION PROGRAMME
"The Beginning Spark in Sweet Revolution" by KVIC. KVIC is providing beekeeping training and 10 bee boxes with live colonies to beneficiaries including farmers, beekeepers and unemployed youth with an aim to generate livelihood for the beneficiaries and also increase honey production in the country.
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RAJMOHAN SUDHAKAR

EVER CHANGING MOODS

Write to him at c-rajmohan.sudhakar@timesgroup.com

Saturn's patterns

In India, Israel and in flood-ravaged, economically drained and politically unstable Pakistan, why are administrations mounting immense pressure on jurisprudence, especially on supreme courts?

These attempts to sidestep last standing guardians of democracy worldwide are a definitive sign of the times. Bleak as it were, some do hope these untoward tendencies may trigger agitations by youths awakening from the digital slumber.

Especially in Israel and France, where the far right is holding the incumbents in a stranglehold, the agenda to hollow out democratic safeguards is clear and gaining currency.

In Israel, a far right minister wants a 'national guard' constituted under his command, a militia if you like, in exchange for his support for the embattled prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu. National security minister Itamar Ben Gvir was promised a vote on it after he agreed to stay for a month, a controversial judicial overhaul. The proposed judicial overhaul, which has kicked off mass protests, is intended to shield politicians from the ambit of law, especially Netanyahu engulfed in a cloud of corruption charges. The proposed force, observers say, may be used to unfairly target Arabs in Israel.

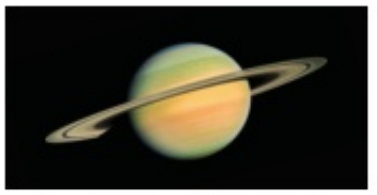
In India, if the apex court has to repeatedly remark on the freedom of press, rising instances of hate speech, fundamental rights and constitutional guarantees, as recently as the 'impotent state' comment - what are we to glean?

That said, the most awaited political battle in a decade is afoot with the penultimate focus on Rahul Gandhi. Surely, the metamorphosis of the Congress leader, and the now disqualified member of parliament from Wayanad, Kerala, into an astute and woke politician that the times warrant is a difficult transformation to miss even for the pliant press, though try hard they do.

What Gandhi said in his first presser after the disqualification was peculiar. He pointed to why many may not consider his politics fashionable. What the Congress leader has triggered thereafter is anything but.

As an afterthought, fence-sitting West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee broke her studied silence. The most interesting shape-shift however is Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal reviving his avatar as a staunch critic of prime minister Modi, a version of him whom he had himself retired for some time solely for survival — two of his ministerial aides were put behind bars after all.

This transformational journey has been hard on Gandhi. Nonetheless he has arrived, finally, thanks to the 'worried-scurried' scramble of the current dispensation.



From the Bharat Jodo Yatra to the parliament and beyond, despite vile social media campaigns that 'distort, defame and divert', Gandhi has been speaking truth to power, however much you may nitpick. I don't see why one should nitpick on the only opposition leader who has been consistently vocal on core issues that resonate with the electorate, one who walked miles to gauge the pulse of the nation, one who was out to embrace a billion souls with open arms and heart brimming with compassion, so becoming a leader, in the process, we have not seen in decades perhaps. It is as though the age of the sage politician has dawned, a throwback from ancient India. Rahul Gandhi's 'Kabirana andaaz' was on display at the press conference post disqualification, an independent commentator observed.

Gandhi had indeed offered the embrace to the prime minister too in the parliament once only to be ridiculed at the time.

Perhaps Gandhi's is the most relevant and apt political posturing in a country that is ravaged by inflationary penury, rising inequality, looming fallout of the climate emergency, skyrocketing unemployment and job losses — a politics of empathy for the waylaid citizen — that was overlooked for digital persona management and silencing of critics which is now policy.

As we enter 'wet-bulb' April-May months, immersed in a cauldron of humidity and heat, rapidly rearranging political equations are turning up the political temperature ahead of a crucial assembly election in Karnataka. No doubt this is a make or break moment for the incumbent as well as the opposition parties here. More so for the constituents, and each stakeholder, with a curious eye trained on the 2024 Lok Sabha.

As opposition leaders clad in black weather the scorching sun in brave resolve, protesting what they call the politically motivated disqualification of Rahul Gandhi after he was convicted for defamation by a Gujarat court, standards in political discourse are hitting new lows that major democracies across the world stated they are keenly observing the turn of events in India.

It is crucial that we don't go down the road of anarchy following the Netanyahu example and be lost chasing petty criminals such as the so-called 'rogue separatist from Punjab on the run' as a distraction from real issues. As a nation, we already have a lot to brace for, even as labour strikes and civil unrest trouble much of Europe.

SOS: Restore life-saving supply of milk to kids

'Only source of nutrition': Activists write to CM asking him to ensure milk supply that has stopped in schools, anganwadis be restored ASAP

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Under the scheme, kids are given one glass of milk at schools (File)

Activists have written to the Chief Minister demanding his urgent intervention in restoring the supply of milk in schools and anganwadis under the Ksheera Bhagya Scheme. Supply has stopped for nearly three months now.

"We invite your urgent attention to the disruption in the supply of milk (powder) to government, government-aided schools and anganwadis in several districts of Karnataka under the Ksheera Bhagya Scheme since January 2023. According to reports, since January, the supply of milk powder from KMF has been discontinued in at least 11 districts, of which some of the districts like Gadag, Bidar, Ballari and Vijayanagara are known to have a high incidence of hunger and malnutrition among children who attend government-run and aided schools," said Ahara Namma Hakku Karnataka in the letter.

The group added that the importance of the scheme is not just the nutritional value. "Often children come hungry to school and this glass of milk is the only food they consume during the 15-16 hours duration between the previous night's meal and the mid-day meal at the school (12 pm)," they added.

The group demanded that the incentive of Rs 5/litre of milk procured pending since November 2022 be released and that rise in retail prices of milk be carried out to ensure enough procurement by KMF. Other demands include: All pending dues of KMF with the Education Department and the Women and Child Development Department be cleared and KMF be directed to prioritise the supply of existing stocks of milk powder towards Ksheera Bhagya scheme. They also demanded that sufficient buffer stocks be earmarked by KMF to manage shortages and an advance be paid by the Education Department and the Women and Child Development Department to KMF for maintenance of stocks.

"In some districts, there has been a drop in production and procurement by KMF. This is due to the government's refusal to increase the retail milk price. So, the compensation to the farmers has reduced. The state government's incentive of Rs 5 per litre has also been held since November last year," explained Siddharth KJ, a member of Ahara Namma Hakku-Karnataka.

> **"Diet given to kids without milk is inadequate. As per law, kids must get at least 12-20 gm of protein** –Dr Sylvia Karpagam

"We visited some anganwadis and schools and they complained that milk powder hasn't been distributed for the last three months. We raised the issue with DPI Commissioner, Vishal R. Without this incentive, attendance of students is also likely to drop," said Dr Sylvia Karpagam, public health doctor and researcher. Fr Anil Dsouza, a member of an NGO Loyola Vikas Kendra working in Mundgod, told Bangalore Mirror, "With no milk for nearly three months, the malnutrition levels have gone up in villages. With parents working the whole day, students are dependent on anganwadis for nutrition."

Yet another low for Bengaluru

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The next morning, on March 26, the victim was dropped near Ejipura. The victim filed a complaint at the Koramangala police station. Within eight hours, the police arrested the culprits. Following the complaint, the woman was taken to the hospital where she is undergoing treatment.

According to the police, the accused and the victim are from Ejipura's Rajendra Nagar. The accused are employed as a BPO staffer, an office boy, an electrician and a room boy. They are in the age group of 23-24 years.

"We have made all necessary steps to ensure the safety of women; within 8 hours of filing the complaint, the accused were nabbed," southeast DCP, CK Baba, told BM.

Women activists said that CCTVs alone are not deterrents to crimes against women.

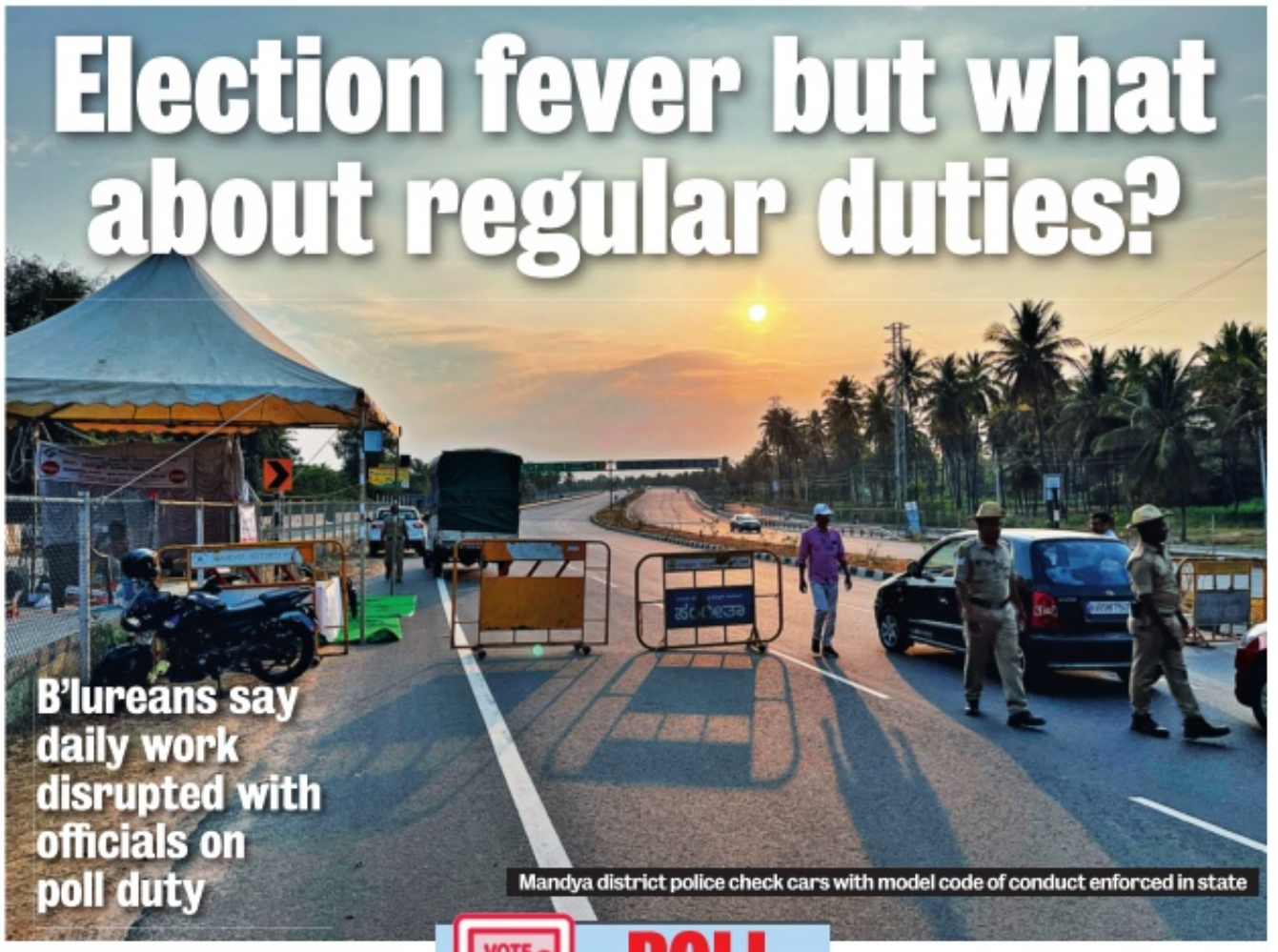
"CCTVs might be effective in discovering clues for crime detection, but CCTVs alone cannot ensure the safety of women. Creating awareness about the crime is of foremost importance. Earlier there were neighbourhood communities creating some awareness. Of late, no efforts are being made in this regard. Patrolling of police vehicles has also reduced considerably. Police departments are grossly understaffed. The recommendations of the Ugrata Committee and Justice Verma Commission are not being implemented. Fast-track courts are not present either or not effective," said activist KS Vimala.

"Locality meetings need to address crimes of different kinds, raise awareness and encourage individuals to live a life free of crime. When the culprit is from the lowest strata of society, action is taken on an immediate basis. However, when the crime is committed by someone from the upper strata, there is a delay in justice," she noted.

Activist Mamatha Yajman reiterated similar concerns: "Apart from CCTVs, there needs to be collective responsibility. All the departments concerned should come together to make spaces for women. Previously Hoysala police used to patrol the city but now citizens have to call and inform them. Even the emergency number 112 is often not reachable."

"But most importantly, as a society, there is a need to change the perception of women's bodies. Safety walks and street theatre should be utilised to change the mindset of the people. At least every three months, the government should take the initiative to create awareness about the issue. After covid, there has been a rise in student dropouts; class divide could be indirectly responsible for such acts too," she added.

Election fever but what about regular duties?



Mandya district police check cars with model code of conduct enforced in state

B'lureans say daily work disrupted with officials on poll duty

Sridhar.Vivan
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POLL VAULT

With 40 days left until the polls, election fever has already hit Bengaluru. Many officials have been assigned election duties, leaving residents struggling to reach them and get their work done. Complaints have risen that officials are unable to attend to their duties due to their election-related responsibilities.

Uttarahalli resident Guru Raj complained that whenever elections are announced, everything comes to a halt. The Model Code of Conduct stalls work, and government officials who have been assigned election duties must take them up. However, it is the residents who feel the heat of the long election period.

"When we contact officials to get work done, we are told they are busy with elections or that they cannot do anything due to the Model Code of Conduct. We hope the Election Commission exempts officials on important duties from election work as it will undoubtedly affect day-to-day operations."

BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath addressed allegations that the ongoing works within BBMP limits have come to a standstill due to officials being deputed for election work. Nath clarified that after the Model Code of Conduct, only the works where a work order has already been issued will continue, and those which have not yet started will not commence until after the elections.

He further explained that earlier, engineers were spending a lot of time on the preparation of estimates and administrative approval, but now they are saving that time by spending it on election duties. Fewer engineers are now on election duty, as the enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct has been delegated to KAS officers, he said, confirming that manpower has been sought for the removal of banners, and stormwater division works are underway.

Voters' ID scam: 'Police case ongoing'

BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath commented on allegations that a political party was collecting sensitive data from the public. Nath stated that a company had previously been blacklisted, and a police case was ongoing, emphasising that no one is allowed to visit homes and collect sensitive information. Nath asserted that if such malpractices come to their attention, they will take action. Nath confirmed that a case has been registered in Mahadevapura.

He also announced that officials and engineers working in the stormwater drain section have been exempted from election duties due to the importance of their work. Nath highlighted that with the onset of the rainy season in Bengaluru, rajakaluve remodelling and desilting works need to be given priority to prevent a repeat of last year's devastating urban floods.

Currently, lining works are ongoing, but there are concerns among Bengalureans whether BBMP will be able to complete the rajakaluve and drain desilting works before the monsoon begins in just two months. The floods last year were attributed to silt formation in rajakaluves, encroachment, and clogged secondary and tertiary drains. BBMP has since vowed to complete all the necessary works before the monsoon to avoid another catastrophe.

Govt clears 26th tranche of electoral bonds

Ahead of Karnataka assembly elections, the government on Friday approved issuance of the 26th tranche of electoral bonds that will open for sale on April 3.

Karnataka will go for polling on May 10. Votes, as per the Election Commission schedule, will be counted on May 13.

Electoral bonds have been pitched as an alternative to cash donations made to political parties as part of efforts to bring transparency in political funding.

State Bank of India (SBI), in the 26th phase of sale, has been authorised to issue and encash electoral bonds through 29 authorised branches from April 3-12, the finance ministry said in a statement.

The last phase of electoral bonds (25th tranche) was open for subscription between January 19-28, 2023.

Officials demonstrate use of an EVM (file)

Usually, electoral bond tranches are open for sale between 1-10 of a designated month. However, the 25th did not follow this order.

Sale of the first batch of electoral bonds happened from March 1-10, 2018.

The authorised SBI branches include those in Bengaluru, Lucknow, Shimla, Dehradun, Kolkata, Guwahati, Chennai, Patna, New Delhi, Chandigarh, Srinagar, Gandhinagar, Bhopal, Raipur, and Mumbai.

SBI is the only authorised bank to issue electoral bonds.

An electoral bond will be valid for 15 days from the date of issuance. No payment would be made to any political party if the bond is deposited after expiry of the validity period, the statement said.

Electoral bonds can be purchased by Indian citizens or entities incorporated or established in the country. Registered political parties that have secured not less than 1 per cent of the votes polled in last Lok Sabha or legislative assembly election can receive funding through electoral bonds. **–PTI**

Pre-poll wrap: What's Karnataka up to?

'Vijayendra should contest from Shikaripura'

Senior BJP leader BS Yediyurappa on Friday ruled out his son BY Vijayendra (in picture) being fielded from Varuna constituency to take on Congress leader Siddaramaiah and said he would fight the election from Shikaripura.

Addressing reporters, he said, "I have said it long back that though there is pressure from Varuna, he should contest from Shikaripura."

Yediyurappa added that Vijayendra will fight from "my constituency" (Shikaripura in Shivamogga district).

Replying to a question on Vijayendra's statement that the BJP has got its own strength and he would abide by the party's decision, Yediyurappa said, "His statement is correct but I am saying that he will contest from Shikaripura. I will convey this to the party high command and Vijayendra. There is no question of him contesting from Varuna in Mysuru."

Yediyurappa is sitting MLA from Shikaripura, and has already announced his retirement from electoral politics. **–PTI**

AAP releases second list of candidates

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Friday announced its second list of candidates for the Karnataka Assembly polls, scheduled to be held on May 10.

The list was announced by AAP state chief Prithvi Reddy (in picture) and party's State Election in-charge Dilip Pandey.

In the first list, the party had announced 80 candidates and the second list names 60 candidates.

"AAP is providing opportunities to the common man. Like the first list, in the second list too, the average age of our candidates does not exceed 45 years. In the two lists, 23 engineers, 14 farmers, 18 advocates, 11 women, six doctors, five techies and five doctorate holders are given tickets. The two lists have 68 graduates and six MBA graduates," he said.

"Among the 60 candidates in the second list, 59 are contesting for the first time. BMTC former conductor has also been given a ticket. The survey conducted in the state has shown that 46 per cent of people want a new government other than BJP, Congress and JD(S). We are not only bringing in the new party, but also new candidates," he claimed.

"Punjab CM was defeated by a man who worked at a mobile shop. We are inspired by it and that magic is going to be repeated in Karnataka," Reddy stated. **–IANS**

CM's car intercepted

Election officials on Friday intercepted and checked Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai's car when he was on his way to a temple in Bengaluru Rural district.

A video showing officials checking the vehicle has gone viral on social media.

According to sources, Bommai was heading to Ghati Subramanya temple in a private car -- as he had surrendered his official car on the day the election schedule was announced on Wednesday -- when it was stopped at Hosahudya checkpost.

"Nothing objectionable was found; the minister continued his journey," sources added. **–PTI**

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

STRIKING POSES

A parliament of owls perching on a tree in Vignan Nagar

The picture was clicked by BM reader **Vijita Asher**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com**

Fresh ways to repair

In order to build smoother roads along Tumkur Main Road, BBMP tries new method of asphalting

Melvin Mathew
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

As a pilot project, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is using 25 millimetre stone matrix asphalt (SMA) along Tumkur Main Road and the Basaveshwara bus stand in Peenya. BBMP had previously tried using a 40 mm stone asphalt matrix on other stretches of Bengaluru.

In a new attempt at providing smoother roads, BBMP is trying 25 mm SMA on roads as opposed to the standard 40 mm SMA. Experts point out that 25 mm roads will be smoother.

BBMP Engineer-in-Chief BS Prahallad told Bangalore Mirror that the SMA is already in use in many parts of Bengaluru, but Palike is attempting something new.

"The minimum thickness of SMA is 40 mm. But we are trying to do 25 mm. The wearing course is usually either 40 mm or 25 mm and now we want to restrict it to 25 mm. The new method will reduce the cost by 40 per cent," he said.

BBMP's RI division in RR Nagar had floated a tender for asphalting of Basaveshwara bus stand road using 25 mm SMA mix, from Tumkur Main Road (NH-4) to Basaveshwara bus stand, at the cost of Rs 192.50 lakh.

According to experts, stone matrix asphalting is a combination of cement, coarse, and fine aggregates.

"Due to the matrix form using three ideal materials, the size can be reduced as well. It provides a clean mix and provides for uniform strength. Bigger aggregates pose a problem with compression. At the stage of compression of the road, it becomes easier with 25 mm SMA," said MN Sreehari, a road expert.

Stone matrix asphalting is a mix of cement, coarse, and fine aggregates

"The minimum thickness of SMA is 40 mm. But we are trying to do 25 mm. The wearing course is usually either 40 mm or 25 mm. The new method will reduce cost –BS Prahallad, BBMP

The strength of the road will depend on the curing process, whether it is dry or wet, but it will provide at least 200 kg per cm square, he added.

Along with PotholeRaja, the Palike is implementing an SMA mix road in the Peenya industrial area. In this case, the SMA mix will be a combination of asphalt cement along with stabilising agents such as fibres. The road surface built using SMA will be highly durable and resistant, making it a suitable material for Bengaluru's heavy traffic.

DID YOU KNOW?

Hebbal-Kittayya is one of the oldest Kannada inscriptions. It is one of the latest discovered inscriptions in Bengaluru. The inscription honours Kittayya and was discovered on May 1, 2018 in Hebbal. The inscription is on a Ooralivu Veeragallu, which is a memorial stone, generally erected in honour of someone who was martyred while defending their town. The text of the inscription is written in Ganga period Kannada script. Reportedly, the inscription is older than any known literary work in the Kannada language by about 100 years. Many historians say that Kittayya was the first citizen of Bengaluru.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

What improvement can be done in Bengaluru metro?

Chethan Kumar, BM Reader
The metro team has to increase the frequency of trains during peak hours (between 8 am to 11am and 6pm to 9pm). Metro has spent more on building intermittent stations. It should have been kept simple.

Lakshmi Bheemachar, BM Reader
Morning peak hour metro services should start right from 7 am. That's when every minute counts since Namma Bengaluru is being connected far and wide and is crucial for all whether short or long distance.

Sowmya Naveen Kumar, BM Reader
Provide information on steps to use the metro so that everyone understands how to use the metro, decrease in ticket prices, improve quality and speed of construction with zero harm to society, and improve connectivity.

Melvin Varghese, BM Reader
For Bengaluru metro to be successful there should be proper last line connectivity and end-to-end connectivity. If I have to get to the nearest metro station I have to travel around 4-5 km, which gives us no other option but to choose a public bus or an auto.

Chinmayi Vaidya, BM Reader
To improve the Bengaluru metro, we need better connectivity and frequency, increased accessibility for the elderly and disabled, and enhanced security measures.

Daisy Sarma, BM Reader
The fare is unreasonably high for metros. As it is a public transport meant for the common people, the fare should be reasonable to attract more commuters.

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Gender imbalance up; job satisfaction down

Report cites 3 areas of dissatisfaction among women in technology sector including growth, pay, managerial support

Job satisfaction rates among women in tech are declining, which poses a risk for retention. Just 28% of female technologists report being extremely satisfied with their jobs compared to 44% in 2021, says the 2023 Women in Tech Report, citing their top three areas of dissatisfaction as growth potential, current pay, and managerial support, respectively.

Nearly 40% of respondents are considering switching job roles. Their top three reasons for doing so are better compensation, lack of equity in opportunities, and ineffective leadership, respectively.

Skillsoft's 2023 Women in Tech Report which explores the top challenges and areas of opportunity for women working in the technology industry highlights a growing gender imbalance, with nearly half (45%) of women technologists surveyed indicating that they are now outnumbered by men in the workplace by ratios of four-to-one or greater – a significant increase from 25% who said the same in 2021.

This reported gender disparity is even more pronounced at the executive and senior levels of leadership. Skillsoft's IT Skills and Salary research found that among technology professionals with at least 26 years of experience, 15% of men hold executive-level positions compared to just 4% of women. Meanwhile, 30% of female technologists are reporting dissatisfaction with their current growth potential and 36% are considering leaving their jobs due to a lack of equity in opportunities.

"Despite the efforts of organisations to make diversity, equity, and inclusion a greater priority, our research shows the gender gap remains quite wide and significant work needs to be done

Career growth, top priority among women

Despite these obstacles, career growth remains a top priority for female technologists. 92% said professional development and training is an extremely or very important benefit, and when asked about ways employers can better support them, the top three responses were by providing professional development and training, more coaching, mentoring, and career counseling, and equitable pay, respectively.

Additionally, female technologists are actively seeking opportunities to build leadership skills and move into senior roles.

More than a third (34%) have earned certifications in leadership and management over the past year, up from 27% in 2021. Leadership and management is also respondents' top skill area of interest (41%), jumping from the number four spot in 2021.

"Despite the efforts of organisations to make diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace a greater priority, our research shows that the gender gap remains quite wide and significant work is needed to achieve true parity at all levels," said Orla Daly, Chief Information Officer, Skillsoft.

"Women in technology are calling for more opportunities to advance their careers via leadership development, technical training, coaching, and mentorship. Meanwhile, organisations are facing a critical need for technology and leadership competencies. This presents a mutual growth opportunity that helps organisations thrive and empowers women to increase their impact by filling these critical gaps."

Skillsoft's Women in Tech survey was conducted online from December 2022 to February 2023.

— Sreeradha Basu, ET Bureau

Oscar fever grips IPL 2023 opening ceremony

Actor Rashmika Mandanna, on Friday, rocked the dance floor with her power-packed dance performance on the Oscar-winning song 'Naatu Naatu' at the IPL 2023 Opening ceremony in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

The IPL 2023 began with a grand opening ceremony at the Narendra Modi Stadium where B-town celebs like Arijit Singh, Tamannaah Bhatia and Rashmika Mandanna entertained the audience with their amazing performances.

The 'Mission Majnu' actor shook her legs on several hit tracks like the Oscars winning track 'Naatu Naatu' from 'RRR', 'Saami - Saami' and 'Srivalli' from her film 'Pushpa', 'Dholida' from 'Gangubai Kathiawadi' and many more.

Tamannah gave a thrilling performance on songs like 'Tum Tum' and 'Oo Antava' from 'Pushpa: The Rise'

The 2023 edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL) will begin with the clash of star-studded defending champions Gujarat Titans (GT) and four-time champions Chennai Super Kings at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad.

The match will be a battle between two generations of Indian cricket. At one side will be CSK skipper MS Dhoni, who took Indian cricket to new heights of success in the late 2000s to early 2010s by clinching the inaugural ICC T20 World Cup (2007), ICC Cricket World Cup (2011) and ICC Champions Trophy (2013) and became the only skipper to win these three major titles.

The T20 cricket extravaganza will be played across 12 venues with the Narendra Modi Stadium hosting the opener on March 31 and the tournament final will be played on May 28 at the same venue Ahmedabad.

In total 12 venues - Mohali, Lucknow, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata, Jaipur, Mumbai, Guwahati (Royals' second home) and Dharamsala (Kings' second home) will host the IPL 2023 matches. The matches will be played on two match timings with the day matches starting at 3:30 PM IST while the night matches beginning at 7:30 PM IST.

ANI

In her parents' footsteps: All eyes on the coach

Amulya Kamal is treading the same path that her dad and mom did. Amulya's dad Kamal and mom Chitra Gangadhar were footballers-turned coaches. Daughter Amulya is doing just the same.

Chitra was a goalkeeper par excellence having represented Karnataka and India and also captained the team during her playing career in the 1970s to the 1980s. Later she did her NIS Football Coaching Diploma and coached various teams and the age-old Bangalore United Football Club's boys and girls teams as well. She also had coaching stints with the state and National teams. Kamal was a club-level footballer and now coaches boys and girls at the BUFCs coaching camps and in their league sojourns.

Amulya grew up watching her parents play and also provide coaching to aspiring players. She too developed interest in the game and took to football playing first and then coaching in earnest. After excelling for BUFC and her state teams, Amulya, a midfielder represented India in the qualifying campaign of the 2008 AFC Women's Asia Cup and the 2012 London Olympics qualification tournament. Amulya picked up the winners' medals with the Indian team in the 2010 SAFF Championship for Women and the SAF Games the same

year. The Government of Karnataka gave her the Ekalavya Award for her outstanding performance in 2010. She was then selected to represent India in the 2014 Asian Games.

Once her playing career came to an end, Amulya jumped onto the coaching bandwagon and is in charge of the Karnataka women's team that is taking part in the group games on the National Women's football championships. This is her first major assignment and all eyes will be on her.

"Yes, this is the first time I have been given charge of the State women's team. I have been into coaching for the past five to six years and am confident that our team will do well," said Amulya. "The mood in the team is very positive and the girls are raring to go. They are a very confident lot and that is a good sign to start with. We had about a month to prepare as the KSFA provided us with all the facilities," opined Amulya.

Who are the star players in your team? Amulya had a very interesting answer. "All my players are stars for me." "We have a fairly balanced team in all departments, goal, defence, midfield and the attack. We do depend on Kavya and Maithri to score and they are our main strikers,' said Amulya. "I am confident we will finish among the top two and qualify for the knock outs," said Amulya.

"Amulya is a budding coach. She has the knowledge and the experience as well. Now she has the opportunity to prove herself. This is her first big assignment but I think she is ready for it," said her mother Chitra.

– SS Shreekumar

Record year for HAL

Public sector Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has registered its highest-ever revenue from operations of nearly Rs 26,500 crore (provisional and unaudited) for the financial year (FY) 2022-23 as compared to Rs 24,620 crore for the previous financial year.

The company has recorded a revenue growth of eight per cent during the year as compared to the previous FY 2021-22.

"Despite the challenges of supply chain disruptions due to geo-political situations, the company could achieve the targeted growth in the top line. This was possible with the increased thrust on indigenisation and with the available inventory," said C. B. Ananthakrishnan, Chief Managing Director, HAL.

He also added that the order book of the company stood at nearly Rs 82,000 crore at the end of March 2023 after liquidation of the supplies during 2022-23. **IANS**

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, DIVYADEEPIKA W/o Vishwanath, residing at No. 1950, MCECHS Layout, Shivarama Karanth Nagar, Jakkur Post, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560064, declaring that both DIVYADEEPIKA and DIVYADEEPIKA VISHWANATH are same names and belongs to me only and I will use DIVYADEEPIKA for all future correspondances, vide affidavit dated 31.03.2023, sworn before notary L.B Anasuyamma, Bangalore.

I, Preethi Kenchnoor, W/o Prathvinda A. Shetty, R/o Number 613, Nisarga, 4th Main, 1st Cross, B.C.M.C. Layout, Raghuvanahalli, Off Kanakapura Road, Bengaluru-560109 have changed my minor daughter's name from Pratheeksha Shetty to Pratheeksha Prathvinda Shetty for all purposes.

I, RADHAMANI PRAKASH, W/o. Prakash M R Residing at S-1003, Pramuk M M Meridien, Jayanagar 7th Block, BSK 2nd Stage Post, Bangalore- 560070. Karnataka India have changed my name to RADHAPRAKASH vide affidavit dated: 29.03.2023 before notary B.S Padma Prasad, Bengaluru.

I, RAZIA BANU, W/o. Vazeer Saheb and Residing at No. 1480, 4th Cross, 5th Block, HMT Layout, Bangalore 560073. Karnataka, India, have changed my name to RAZIYA BANU vide affidavit dated: 23.03.2023 before notary B.V. Nagabhushana, Bengaluru.

I, Padmakshi Kulkarni w/o Ravindra N Gothe R/o #03/1, 6th main, 12th cross, Teachers colony, Jakkasandra, Koramangala, B'luru 560034 have changed my name to Suma Ravindra Gothe affidavit Dt.31/03/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I Mr Bhandare Yesudass Agreef R/o Madhava Sri Durga Enclave, Flat no SF 301, 5th Stage BEML Layout, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengalore-560098, have changed my name to Yeshudas Agrip Bhandari.

I, Ramesh Hastimal Jain S/o Hastimal Jain, R/o 1122,12th Floor, Sobha Indraprastha Tower 1 Gopalapura, B'luru 560023 Have changed my mame to Ramesh Jain, Affidavit Dt.31/03/2023 Notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I Vinay Kumar Tiptur Narasimha R/o #434,3rd main beml layout 7th stage kengeri Hobli B'luru 560059 have changed my name to Vinay Kumar Thippasandra Narasimha Murthy for all purposes.

I Ajila Bharat Kumar Balthila Prithviraju S/O, Prithviraju Ajila R/o No Sal-71,south Block, Vijaya Enclave, Bilekahalli, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru-560076 have changed my name to Bharat Kumar Ajila for all purposes.

I, Rakesh Magadum R/o #3, 1st main, Renuka enclave, Thippenahalli, Doddabidara kallu, Nagasandra, Bengaluru 560073 have changed my name to Rakesh Basavaraj Magadum affidavit Dt.31/03/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I Aparna Angelica Ponnappa W/O, Palecanda Aiyanna Ponnappa R/o No 31, Mango House, 5th Cross, Banjara Main Road, Horamavu Agara Bengaluru - 560043 have changed my name to Aparna Ponnappa

I Mohammed Sayeed Ahmed R/o Ahad Residency Plot No 405 New No 20 4th Floor 1st Main 1st Cross Road SRK Garden Bangalore 560041 changed New name as Sayeed Ahmed

I Rajashekar T.S R/o #252, MC road, Gunigantipalya, Mulabagal, Kolar 563131 have changed my minor daughter name to Ishita to Ishita Rajashekhar Talari affidavit Dt.31/03/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda M. V, B'luru

I Sucharita Nadiger W/o Arjun Rao R/o 1252/A, 32G Cross East End Main Road, 4 T Block Jayanagar, Bangalore 560041 have changed my name after marriage to Sucharita Rao for all purposes vide affidavit no. IN-KA25863113457353V dated 28 March 2023.

I, Tabraiz Khan R/o GF.01, Alzass Grey Stone Apts, Stephens road, Frazer town Bengaluru 560005 have changed my minor son name Rayyan Khan to Muhammad Usman Khan affidavit Dt.31/03/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I, CHAITHANYA SHIVA KUMAR, S/o. Shivakumar Ramasubramaniam Residing at Ivory 605, H M World City Apartments, J P Nagar 9th Phase, Bengaluru 560062 Karnataka, India, have changed my name to CHAITANYA SHIVAKUMAR, vide affidavit dated: 27.03.2023 before notary B.V. Nagabhushana, Bengaluru

I Rashmi Nukesh Nitnaware r/o Flat #004 ASN Galaxy Apartment , Horamavu Bengaluru-560043 have changed my name to Rashmi Nitnaware

LOST & FOUND

I Sri. Krishna Gowda and Smt. Lalitha, Residing at No130, Kammasandra, Sulibele road Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District. We have lost our property documents bearing site no 37, khatha no.67, Swathu no.58, Hallehalli Village, Bidhrahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk Reg no :- 16246-2003-04

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HEALTH TIP: Think of your cuticles like the protective caulking around a bathtub; if you cut them back too far around too aggressively, you damage them

Wearing nail polish isn't going to harm your healthy nails, although you probably should give your nails a break on the polish periodically

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MILKY WAY

Benefits of adding milk to your beauty routine

Milk, when it is raw or sour, has numerous benefits on your skin. It helps in exfoliating and moisturising your skin. Milk helps to fight your wrinkles, get an even skin, and to soothe a sunburn.

Here are the numerous benefits of adding milk to your beauty routine.

Fights wrinkles

While skin ageing is a natural process, sometimes not a bad skincare routine, or continuous exposure to the sun can aid wrinkles. Milk can help you fight all this as it has lactic acid which helps in reducing wrinkles and gives you a smooth and glowing skin.

Exfoliator

Exfoliating your skin regularly is very important. It helps in removing dead skin cells and makes your skin soft and smooth. You can apply milk directly on your face or mix it with several ingredients and make face packs and apply it on your face.

Helps with sun damage

Excess exposure to the sun causes severe damage to the skin. Milk contains lactic acid, and it can help treat sun damage or sunburns on your skin. You can take cold milk on a cotton pad and then apply it on your skin.

Moisturises

Milk is a very effective moisturiser for the skin. Moisturisers are beneficial for the skin during winters, and it causes the dryness of the skin and makes it look healthier. You can add milk in various face packs for best results.

Helps with acne

Milk has a lot of vitamins. Raw milk helps in treating acne-prone skin. It cleans the excess oils and dirt from your skin. Lactic acid helps in fighting off microbes which cause acne. Take raw milk on a cotton pad and apply it on a clean face. This will gradually help you get rid of your acne.

DIY these face packs

Milk, Besan, Turmeric, Honey

Take besan and raw milk in a bowl, add a pinch of turmeric and one teaspoon of honey. Apply this face pack twice a week for 15 minutes for glowing skin.

Milk, Honey, Lemon

Raw milk, when mixed with honey and lemon, works as a natural bleach. Take 1 TBSP of raw milk and milk it with ½ TBSP of honey and lemon juice. Apply it on your face and neck for 10 minutes and then rinse it off.

Milk, Multani Mitti

Milk, when mixed with Multani mitti gives you clear and soft skin. Take 1 tbsp of Multani mitti and add ½ tbsp of milk. Mix it well to form a thick paste. Apply this on your face and neck for 15-20 minutes. Apply twice a week to get best results.

Milk, Sandalwood

Sandalwood can do magic on your skin. It gives a natural glow to your skin. Milk can nourish the skin. Take 1 tbsp of sandalwood and ½ tbsp of milk. Mix it well and apply it on your skin and keep it for 15 minutes.

Milk, Oatmeal face pack

Oatmeal works as a natural scrub. Oatmeal, when mixed with milk, works as an excellent scrubber for the skin. Take 1 tbsp of oatmeal and milk accordingly so that it forms a thick paste. Apply this mixture on your face for 10 minutes and then rinse it off.

—Diya Jain (Femina)

MIRRORLIGHTS

Ways to enforce healthy boundaries with people

Whether with colleagues and bosses, parents and siblings, or friends, setting boundaries is important because it is a form of self-care. Boundaries help you communicate your rules and limits as to how you would like to be treated and tell others what is or is not acceptable. Sure, it is not easy to enforce boundaries, especially with loved ones, but once you start putting yourself first, it'll just get easier. Identify what bothers you – in the workplace, at home, or with other people. Is it the tone that's being used with you, the demands or requests being made, or other behaviour.

Set your limits in your head by visualising what would make you feel better. Perhaps you would like your boss or colleague to treat you with more respect, or you'd prefer it if your friend could handle basic tasks on their own, or you'd like to take things a notch down with your partner.

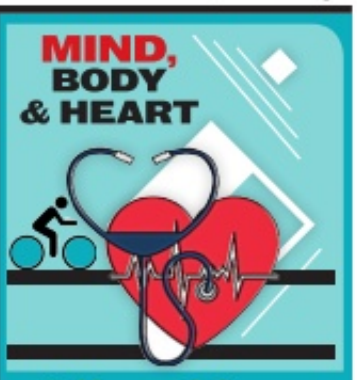
Write down your limits in your journal. Go through them and tell yourself that these are things you need to be at ease, and that you should not feel guilty for your feelings.

Communicate your boundaries with the concerned people openly. Use positive language, a calm tone, and be firm. Do not be afraid of hurting the other person or be worried about the outcome.

Be ready to face criticism or defensive statements. Have your case well-prepared.

Don't be rigid when it comes to relationships; if the other person is ready to meet you halfway, see if you can rework your boundaries.

— Kalwyna Rathod (Femina)



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I've found myself in a tricky situation at work. I started my new job recently and have realised an ex works there, too, but in a different department. He was absolutely horrible at the end of our relationship.
I found out he had been seeing multiple other women, even though we were living together and (I thought) building a future. He had children from his previous marriage. It was devastating.
I'm seven years younger than him and I felt he took advantage of my age, using his charm to cover up his affairs.
Now, I feel panicked going into work.
I worry that he'll lie about our relationship, too, and what happened. I don't know any of my colleagues well enough yet to confide in them. I don't want to leave the job and I don't see why I should.

COLEEN SAYS

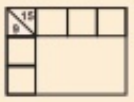
Yes – put all your efforts into enjoying the job and getting to know your colleagues, and be thankful he's your ex. It seems you are still letting him get into your head and control you, when you should be going into work, holding your head high and feeling really proud that you have got this great job.

If he tries to get into a conversation about your relationship, shut it down immediately by telling him it's in the past, you have no interest in revisiting it, and you're there to work.

His cheating and his lying during your time together obviously damaged your confidence and left you heartbroken, but the important thing is not to let him keep controlling your story. Working for the same company is bound to feel awkward at first, but that won't last because you'll gain confidence in your role and make friends. If he does start causing trouble, go to HR and explain what's going on.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

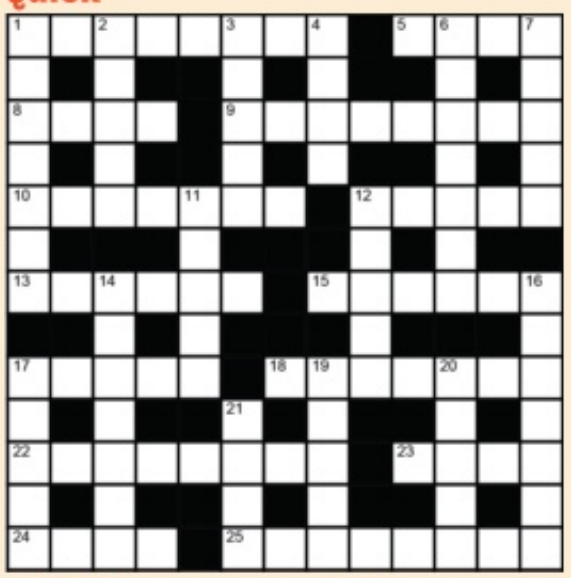
Kakuro



The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.

Quick



ACROSS

1 Mausoleum at Agra (3,5)
5 Chooses or selects (4)
8 Disastrous defeat (4)
9 Di Caprio of Hollywood (8)
10 Thesaurus entry (7)
12 Drums informally (5)
13 Nominating (6)
15 ____ Lake: Picnic spot north east of the city. (6)
17 Prefers (5)
18 Thought – "i.e.dated" anagram? (7)
22 In a sleepy manner (8)
23 Absent without leave (4)
24 After deductions (4)
25 Rebukes, reproaches or denounces (8)

DOWN

1 Piece of land (7)
2 Pleasure trip (5)
3 'Roots' writer (5)
4 Ransack (4)
6 Porch area at a doorway (7)
7 Skin blemishes (5)
11 Well dressed numbers! (5)
12 Figure out (5)
14 Discern or understand? (4,3)
16 Posers or puzzles of sorts (7)
17 Heavily burdened (5)
19 Senior member of a group (5)
20 Tall building (5)
21 White metal (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: A EQUALS G

TWVRAK MG QWK TPRGQVRQ, QWK GMARVC UPZ ZKXMZQW, QWK KAA PU QWK DWPKRMY.

Linemaro

You're the mini-cherry on top of the regular cherry on top of the sundae of awesomeness that is my life

Mindchow

Life loves to be taken by the lapel and told: I am with you kid. Let's go

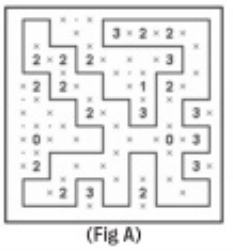
Joke of the day

I'm very good at remembering random facts. For example, there are 3,500 types of lice. And that's just off the top of my head.

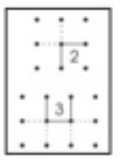
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

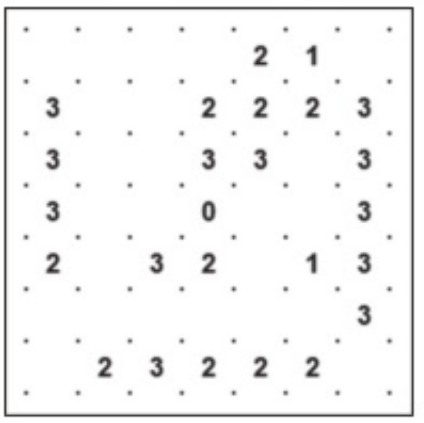


(Fig B) Not Allowed

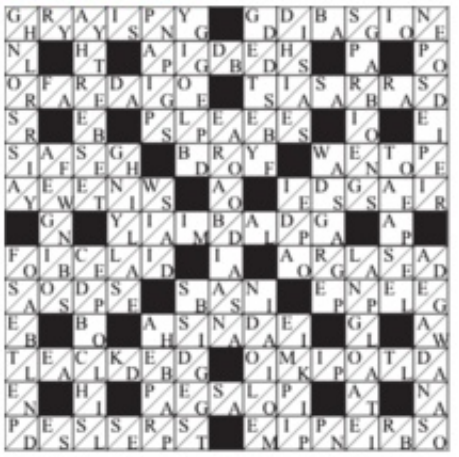
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



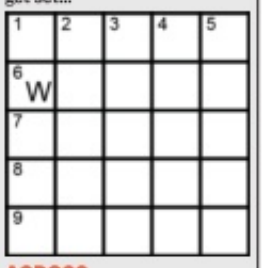
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

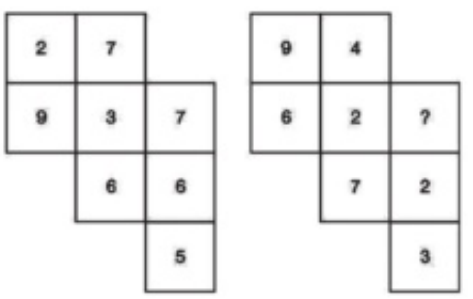
1 Heaps; 6 On Wag;
7 Glad I; 8 Ler me;
9 Up Rod

DOWN

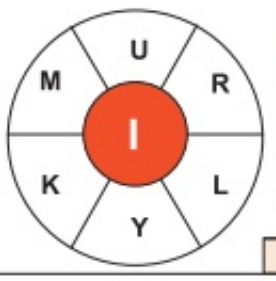
1 Was MP; 2 Lehar;
3 Or gag; 4 Ilo up;
5 Den Ed

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

02 Average; 03 Good; 04 Outstanding

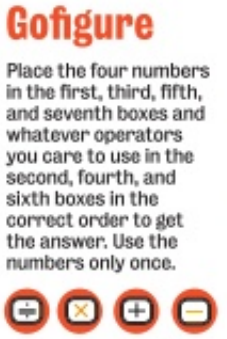
SudokuChallenge

		3		2		4		
	5		7	3	1		6	
			9		5			
3			8	5	9			4
		6				8		
8			1	6	2			3
			3		7			
	2		5	1	4		3	
		7		9		1		

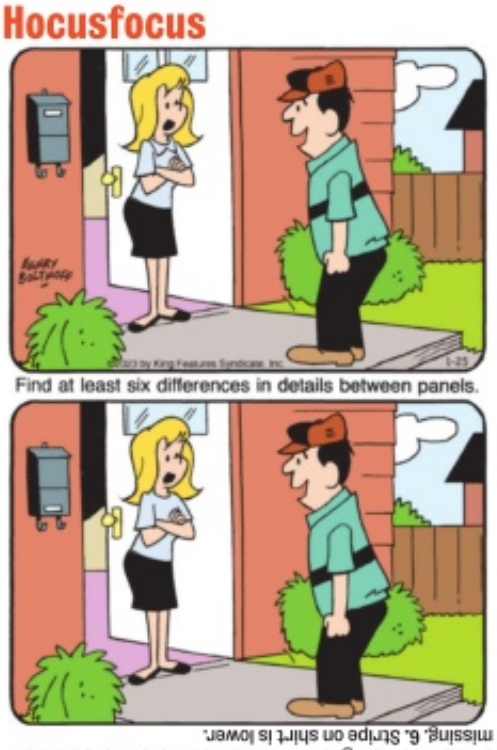
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Arm is longer. 2. Window in door is different. 3. Doorknob is higher. 4. Mailbox is different. 5. Collar is missing. 6. Stripe on shirt is lower.

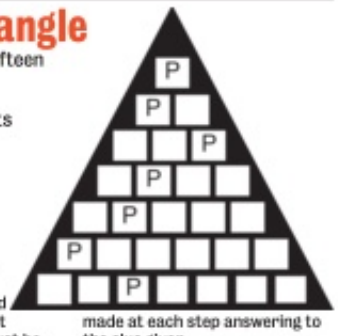
Riddler

A name of a musical instrument is hidden in each of these phrases or sentences.

1. Instrument played in Olympic colorful parade.
2. Cancel long concert for stringed instrument.
3. Urban joke played on instrument.
4. Angelic playing with arpeggios.
5. Absolutely beautiful playing of stringed instrument.

Alpha triangle

1 Atomic number Fifteen
2 European river
3 Summit
4 Chooses or selects
5 Wear
6 Placard
7 Sells abroad



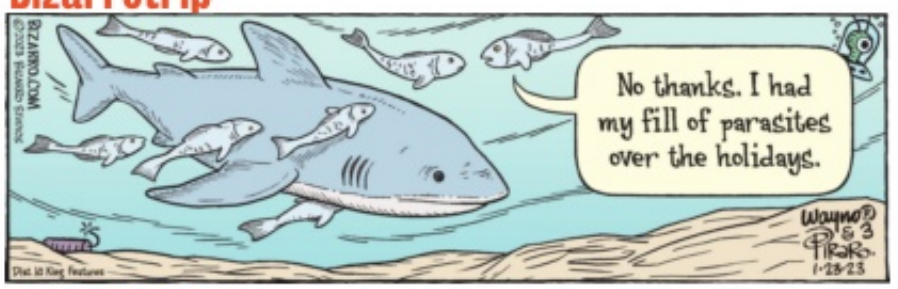
Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

MY CHEST HURTS. LIKE MY LUNGS ARE BEING STABBED!
I THINK IT'S JUST NERVES FROM THE PLAY! A LIGHT PANIC ATTACK!
I'M SORRY, HEART. BUT YOU HAVE PNEUMONIA.
ARE YOU SURE IT'S NOT JUST A SEVERE PANIC ATTACK?!?

Crankshaft

THIS 'BLACK RAVEN' COMIC IS PRETTY RARE... I'LL TELL YOU WHAT...
HOW ABOUT IF I SELL THIS AND SPLIT THE PROCEEDS WITH YOU?
OH, THAT'S NOT REALLY NECESSARY.
WE COULD BE TALKING THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS HERE...
BUT, IF YOU INSIST...
BATTLE & DAVIS tombattuk.com/books

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, with the blessings of the moon, you may have happiness around you. Projects which were stopped now will come on track. Relationships with the spouse may be stronger, and you may perform well at work. Singles may be likely to find a soul mate, and love birds may make plans to convert the relationship into marriage.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, with the help of blessings from elders, you may become more confident. Your working efficiency may increase, and you can start new innovations in terms of business and work. You may likely have smart gains after a little investment, and opponents and rivals are now under control. You may help some needy person by giving money, which may increase your prestige.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, things are mixed. You may be busy with kids and may expect some short trip related to kids' academics. You will also enjoy your romantic moments. Couples may hear good news in terms of a new baby's birth. You may plan to go for an outing with the family or friends as well. Natives in jobs may plan for higher education to increase their skill set.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today may be somewhat disappointing, as you may be impatient and unable to focus on your goals. Investments in fixed assets are advised to be postponed for a while. It is advised to take care of your parents' health.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may feel energetic and courageous and may likely buy some important household stuff for your home or office. Your inner strength may likely be helpful in completing your projects before the deadline. Disputes with siblings may likely be resolved, and there may be some short trips related to work, which will increase your network.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, time is favourable, and you may be able to control your expenditures. Your savings may likely increase, and you may be busy at home. You may bring some artifacts for your home and plan to renovate your office. There is an atmosphere of joy and happiness in the family, and love birds may likely plan to get married. Singles may find their soul match, and kids will perform well.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, things are now under control, and you may feel some new energy, which may give you confidence. You may likely find a new way that may lead you towards success at work. Parental business may reach new heights, and chronic illness may likely be cured. You may also plan for an overseas trip.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, there may be some dull feeling in you, which may make you upset and impatient. You may likely face some health-related issues. It is advised to avoid rash driving and adventure tours. You are advised to keep an eye on hidden enemies and opponents, as you might be a victim of conspiracy. You should avoid making any argument.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today may be good for your professional life. This is a time when you may be busy in your professional and job front. You may become passionate towards your work, which may give you mental tiredness. You may not be able to reach on time for family or social get-together, but your spouse may support you to maintain domestic harmony.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon, which may make you happy. You may be busy at work and likely to increase your network in terms of work. With the help of elders' blessings, you will implement new plans into your work to achieve success in the near future. You may plan to visit some close relatives or plan a party with friends.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, there may be some strange fear in you, which can make you more emotional than usual. Meditation and chanting mantras may help you. It is advised to avoid adventure tours. You must also not have high expectations from other people, otherwise you may feel let down. Lovebirds should avoid sensitive topics.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may try to analyse yourself and figure out your mistakes. Self-analysis will boost your confidence at work. Disputed matters in partnerships may likely be resolved, and warmth with your spouse may improve. Students may make quick decisions regarding their careers, and singles may find a good match.

KIDZONE

J Sagar, 14 years, Bengaluru

Mohammad Zaid, 8 years, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
=(3^-4*(2^4)^-3^5.2)/(2^-12^(5.2)^-1*(3^2)^-2)
=(3^-4*2^-12^5.2)/(2^-12^5.-2^3.-4)
=-5^5/5^-2
=-5^(2+2) =5^4 = 625

STRIKE OUT
GRAINY GIBSON
LAIDBACK
SASHES
SLABS
OARAGE
TIARAS
ROUT
LEONARDO
AOP
TAJMAHAL
OPTS
NETT
CENSUSURER
DESERT
MINERS
EHA
ESOP
ACKED
IMPALA
LAMBADA
PETTIS
EDGER
GLAMA
OGLED
FIELD
OGLED
ASPS
BAIL
EPEE
BHOH
INDIWI
ASSET
ATED
LIKES
IOEATED
NAMING
ULSOOR
ANTONYM
SKINS
RENT
TENT
LONARDO
AOP

QUICK

MENSA PUZZLE
5: looking down
columns from left to right, 96 + 427 = 523

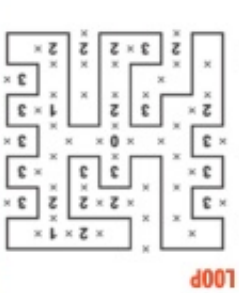
RIDDLER
1. piccolo,
2. cello,
3. banjo,
4. harp,
5. lute

SUDOKU

7	9	3	6	2	8	4	5	1
2	5	4	7	3	1	9	6	8
6	8	1	9	4	5	3	2	7
3	7	2	8	5	9	6	1	4
5	1	6	4	7	3	8	9	2
8	4	9	1	6	2	5	7	3
1	6	5	3	8	7	2	4	9
9	2	8	5	1	4	7	3	6
4	3	7	2	9	6	1	8	5

ALPHA TRIANGLE
P, Po, Top, Opts, Sport, Poster, Exports.

GO FIGURE
Easy
4 + 8 + 1 x 1 = 13
Medium
5 + 6 – 8 x 6 = 18
Hard
2 + 7 – 7 + 4 = 6

LOOP


KAKURO

FAST FIVE

S	H	A	P	E
W	A	G	O	N
A	L	G	I	D
M	E	R	L	E
P	R	O	U	D

BULL'S EYE
limy, milk, milky, MURKILY

QUOTE UNCODE
Change is the constant, the signal for rebirth, the egg of the phoenix.

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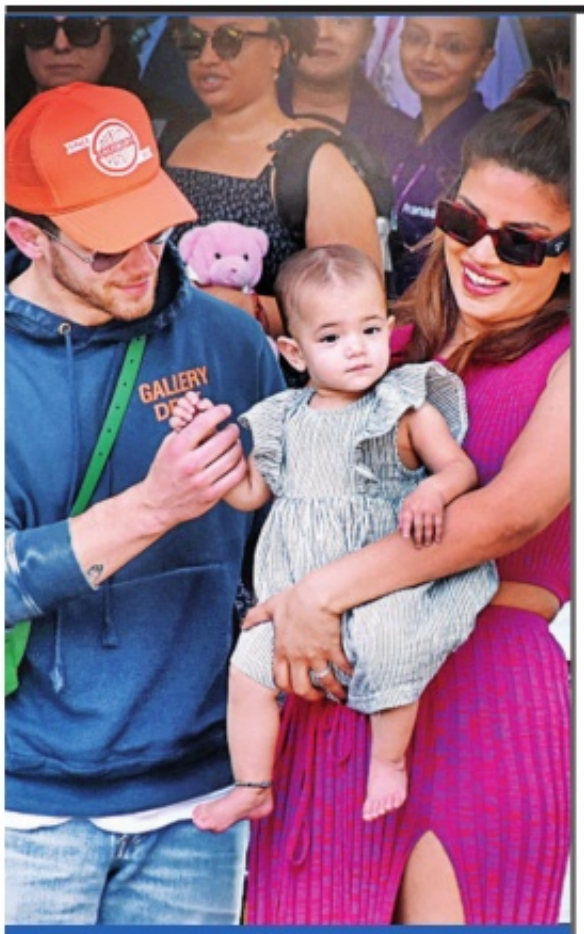
Tom, Zendaya in India 'Spider-Man: No Way Home' stars Tom Holland and Zendaya touched down in Mumbai on Friday. The first photos of the Hollywood power couple in the country sent fans on Twitter into a meltdown



Parenting tips

Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas are enjoying their special moments as parents as seen in their social media posts. The duo often post on how both of them try to cope with their new responsibilities.

Recently Nick took to Instagram to post a hilarious video of folding a baby ball pit.

Nick first posted the same on a video sharing app and then shared it on Instagram. In the video, Nick is seen struggling with a baby ball pit. At one point in time, he said that he would search in Google. But then he did not take help of the search engine and somehow found a way. But his mission is not accomplished as the zipper of the pit breaks.

Priyanka Chopra reacted to the video saying, 'Dead' with folded hands emoji post.

For the last few days, Priyanka has been treating her fans with mother-daughter moments. —ANI

Slow and steady...

Kriti Sanon explains how easy pace of her career helped her stay grounded

As she's short of a year before she marks her decade long run in Bollywood, Kriti Sanon is happy with the way her career has shaped. In her repertoire of nine years, the actress has had some really successful films to her credit including Bareilly Ki Barfi, Panipat, Mimi and Bhediya.

As she looks back at her journey, the actress says that there were times where she felt she deserved more. "There used to be times where I used to get restless, but I would feel like I deserved more than what I am getting. I wished I had some more opportunities. I wished I had certain filmmakers, who would give me that chance. I felt like I had a lot more to offer than what I was able to."

Though she craved for more, Kriti feels that her steady growth helped her to stay grounded. She explains, "If I would have progressed really fast, then I don't know if I would have been the way I am today. So, I am glad that it has all happened slowly and steadily and I didn't really feel a sudden change... like the world around me changed all of a sudden."

The actress who's now looking forward to her upcoming films like Adipurush, Ganapath and The Crew signs off saying, "I am glad that it all changed slowly and beautifully. I have evolved through these years and sort of found my own craft. I think I am a lot more humble and grateful today and have my head on my shoulders because of that. So, all this is there because it happened slowly and steadily for me."

—Onkar Kulkarni, ETimes

If I would have progressed really fast, then I don't know if I would have been the way I am today

Home is in the South

Every actor who has worked in Hindi and Southern language films is often asked which one they prefer between the two, and more often than not, they come up with an extremely diplomatic answer. However, Kajal Aggarwal, who is known for films like Singham, Special 26, Magadheera, Thuppakki and Mersal, recently said that she prefers the South industry over Bollywood as the former is 'very accepting' and 'friendly'.

Elaborating more about this at a News18 summit, the actor said that a lot of artists want to start their career in the Hindi industry as it is a widely recognised language. However, she feels that the South is more friendly, and accepting of actors. Moreover, many fabulous technicians and wonderful directors are creating phenomenal content in all four major South languages namely Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam and Kannada.

She added that though the Hindi film industry has been accepting and kind to her, she prefers the ecosystem, ethics, values, and the discipline that the industry down south has to offer. Kajal, who grew up in Mumbai added that Hyderabad and Chennai are home to her now. — ETimes

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Surprise debut

Vijayalakshmi, the daughter of late forest brigand Veerappan, is making her debut in films in the role of an advocate for the Tamil movie Maavveran Pillai that will be dubbed in Kannada.

Speaking over the phone from Salem, Vijayalakshmi told BM she has no prior experience in acting but has a passion towards movies. "Director Raju sir gave me training in acting for three days before commencing the shooting of Maaveeran Pillai. I play an advocate in the movie. I participated in the shooting for more than 15 days. I want to continue acting in movies if given opportunities," said Vijayalakshmi.

She said that her mother consented to her acting in films. "I asked my mother whether I can act in movies.

My mother told me that she has no objection if my husband has no objection. My husband allowed me to act," she said.

Producer and director KNR Raja plans to release this movie in a few days. The movie's soundtrack was launched recently at Prasad Laboratories in Chennai and Veerappan's wife Muthulakshmi attended the event. "The movie is about the ill-effects of alcohol. I am very happy with Vijayalakshmi's work," said Raja.

Raja and Lavinika are the other main cast in this movie.

Screen time

Director-cum-actor Hemant Hegde who is busy with the release of his latest movie Nam Nani Madve Prasanga launched his next movie titled Network. This film would highlight the flaws and advantages of mobile phones.

"I have been contemplating for quite a long time to make a film on this phenomenon. I have many friends and we used to meet frequently. Now, we have no time to meet or indulge in chit chat and fun. All of us are addicted to mobile phones," said Hemant.

He said that his friends, most of them from the Drishti team, are acting in Network. "I thank producer Prabhanjan Rao for agreeing to bankroll this movie. We are planning to start regular shooting from next month," he said.

Aa Dinagalu fame KM Chaitanya, Rajesh Nataranga, Suchendra Prasad, Sharath Lohitasva, Sakshi Meghana, Rakshika are the cast. "I wrote the script and screenplay and played the lead. The movie showcases the ill-effects of mobile phones and how children are becoming addicted to it. Nowadays, families too are seen busy with mobile phones, not talking to each other," the director said.